

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Heinz FOCKE et al, deceased

Appln. No. 10/525,071

Group Art Unit: NOT YET KNOWN

Confirmation No.: 5834

Examiner: NOT YET KNOWN

Filed: February 18, 2005

For: DEVICE FOR PRODUCING FILTER CIGARETTES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), the undersigned is not submitting copies of the cited U.S. patent documents.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

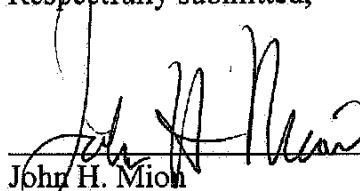
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT...
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/525,071

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant encloses a copy of a TORTA Research S.r.l. letter, received in the EPO on February 4, 2006, for Applicant's counterpart European patent application, and citing the four (4) listed documents.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 3, 2006

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/525,071
				Confirmation Number	5834
				Filing Date	February 18, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Heinz FOCKE et al
				Art Unit	NOT YET KNOWN
Examiner Name	NOT YET KNOWN				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q86252

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,284,165		2/8/1994	Fiorenzo DRAGHETTI
		US 4,888,977		12/26/1989	Firdausi CHEHAB et al
		US 5,259,401		11/9/1993	Norbert LANGE et al
		US 4,121,595		10/24/1978	Uwe HEITMANN et al
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ⁺	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translatio n ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is indicate here if English language Translation is attached.